



TTT applauds success of troops turned teachers

Recent publicity in TV news media, newspapers, and magazines highlighted the accomplishments of some of the more than 5,000 Troops to Teachers (TTT) participants who are K-12 teachers at high-need schools throughout the U.S. An article by Kris Ann Hegle in the Fall 2003 issue of *TODAY's OFFICER* and an Associated Press article published on August 4, 2003, typify the laudatory coverage of recent weeks.

Former or retired Service members have proven to be skilled public school teachers, with many receiving district, state, and national teaching awards. As Hegle states, they “possess the skills and character traits needed to become good teachers.”

Why are they so popular?

- 85 percent of TTT participants are males, who are highly effective role models, especially for disadvantaged children.
- About one-third of participants come from a minority or ethnic group.
- TTT registrants average a mature 42 years, with a career of experience working with young people from diverse backgrounds.
- Their vast life experience makes classes more meaningful.
- A larger percentage of TTT teachers teach math, biology,

chemistry, physics, physical sciences, and Special Ed.

- TTT teachers overwhelmingly believe that a student's socioeconomic background does not prevent one from succeeding academically.
- TTT teachers stay on the job. More than 70 percent are still teaching.

The Hegle article proves the point with profiles of four “Troops.” LTC Adolfo Vasquez, USA Ret., was a military logistician. With a developmentally disabled son, he wanted to teach Special Ed. This desire, combined with bilingual skills and a math background made him a classroom natural. He taught math and Special Ed for several years in the Bernalillo, New Mexico, high school, serving many Native American, Hispanic, and low-income students. He is now the district's transition coordinator and serves on the New Mexico State Task Force for Transition and School to Work. He encourages other military veterans to become teachers.

Maj Carol Henry, USAF Ret., worked in air transportation. Retiring, she completed classes to become certified and began teaching at Enterprise Academy, an alternative high school in Newport News, Virginia. Her students come from various economic and racial back-

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2004 training schedule announced

The DANTES training schedule for next year has been announced. Plans for 2004 include five Test Control Officer (TCO) Workshops, two Services Workshops, and three Regional Workshops.

“We are exploring cross-Service training initiatives and trying to partner with more organizations in 2004,” states DANTES Training Manager Betty Keese. She continues, “The FY03 Training Survey conducted last summer provided us with a lot of good information on what the field wants to see in our training programs. By the way, DANTES

“We are exploring cross-Service training initiatives and trying to partner with more organizations in 2004.”

Betty Keese
DANTES Training Manager

training activities include audiovisual training aids that we develop for use by voluntary education personnel as well as Service members in addition to workshops.”

TCO workshops are designed for prospective active-duty Test Control Officers or Alternate Test Control Officers without previous TCO/ATCO experience and prospective Guard/Reserve TCOs or ATCOs recommended by their Service Headquarters.

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DANTES Distance Learning news

DANTES Catalog of Nationally Accredited Distance Learning Programs Catalog update

Add the following to the schools affiliated with DANTES:

Australasian College of Herbal Studies

5940 SW Hood Avenue
Portland, OR 97239

(503) 244-0726

Toll free 800-487-8839

Fax: (503) 244-0727

E-mail: achs@herbed.com

Internet: <http://www.herbed.com>

Accreditation: Distance Education
and Training Council

Certificate in Herbal Studies

Diploma in Herbal Studies –
Master Herbalist

Concord Law School offers virtual degree program

Concord Law School is the nation's first wholly online law school. Having opened its virtual doors in October 1998, Concord now serves more than 1,500 students.

The Law School's mission is to deliver a high quality legal education to working professionals whose schedules or geographical location prohibit them from attending a fixed facility law school. Graduates of the 4-year, part-time Juris Doctor (JD) program, who meet the regulatory requirements, are eligible to apply for admission to the California State Bar.

As a licensed attorney, there is a wealth of career opportunities available to the JD graduate. Individuals interested in a legal education, but not the practice of law, may opt for the 3-year Executive Juris Doctor SM degree program which provides more

flexibility in choice of courses.

Concord is nationally accredited by DETC.

For more information, visit <http://www.concordlawschool.edu>.

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grounds, and some have checkered academic backgrounds or brushes with the law. Henry credits military structure and discipline for much of her success as a teacher. But she also says that one should only teach if one likes children. Henry is also the president of the Newport News Education Association.

LT William Byrd, USN Ret., was a Marine Corps enlisted man and a Naval officer. He used the \$5,000 TTT stipend to become certified to teach math, science, social sciences, language arts, history, and economics. He felt that holding multiple certifications would open more doors. He teaches math and science at Riverton Middle School in rural Madison, Alabama, where he has received several teaching awards including the TTT "Excellence in Teaching" award presented by First Lady Laura Bush in 2002. Byrd credits parental involvement for his success and is also a parental figure for many of his students.

SgtMaj Anthony Reese, USMC Ret., a 30-year veteran, teaches fourth- and fifth-grade students at Audubon Elementary in San Diego. He does it well, having received several teaching awards, including one from his peers at Audubon—the school district's "Veteran Teacher of the Year" award—in 2001. He also used the TTT stipend to become certified. Reese's students and fellow teachers respect his background and

his teaching skills. Reese takes pride in his students' success and respect, and recalls that he came from a similar setting. Teaching them is his way of repayment.

Cited in the AP story, Serena Rowan, USA Ret., was a Sergeant Major who has worked as a drill sergeant, recruiter, and director of personnel, along with numerous civilian jobs. But her best job is teaching Special Ed in a suburban St. Louis school, Johnson Wabash Elementary School, where the majority of students are from low-income families. She loves her job and her boss loves the job she does. Her assistant principal said that Ms. Rowan "arrives early, stays late, sets high standards for her charges and has made a difference in their lives." She retired in 2002 and knew she wanted to work with children with learning disabilities because "they need more than anybody else," she said. "They need someone who is caring, steadfast, who never runs out. I'm that person."

As often written, the United States needs an estimated two million new teachers nationwide in this decade, with more than 700,000 of those in low-income urban and rural school districts. Many districts already have shortages in math, science, computer science, Special Ed, and English as a Second Language (ESL). TTT helps respond to this need by assisting eligible military personnel in transitioning into careers as public school teachers in high-need schools that serve low-income families.

Eligible TTT registrants may qualify for a stipend to reimburse certification costs. Those who take jobs teaching in specific low-income, high-need schools may be eligible for a \$10,000 bonus.

Full details can be found at <http://ProudToServeAgain.Com>.

Calendar

December

5	Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)
6	LSAT
15-20	GRE Subject*

January 2004

10-14	Praxis*
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February

6	Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)
7	LSAT

March

6-10	Praxis*
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Notes:

Overseas test centers send orders 6 weeks before the test date. Conus test centers send orders 4 weeks before the test date. Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

*Select only one test date from the published period for DANTES testing and specify that date on the order form.

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/03-04cal.doc

Now is a good time to check exam inventory

The new year is just around the corner and now is the time to take a look in the safe to see if you have all the tests to meet the testing needs for the coming year. Check the status of the following tests:

CLEP Paper Based Exams

The following CLEP exams were withdrawn effective 30 November 2003 and should no longer be in the safe:

CLEP Generals

- Natural Science
- College Mathematics
- English Composition

CLEP Subjects

- College Level Spanish Language
- History of the U.S. I
- History of the U.S. II
- Principles of Accounting

Note: Remember, as a precondition to receiving the new CLEP eCBT paper-based exams in April 2004, these and the January 2004 recalled CLEP exams must be returned and fully accounted for. Visit “Hot News” at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil> for the complete 2004 CLEP withdrawal schedule.

ACT Assessment

For 2003-2004 testing, order and administer Form 58A only. If you have not returned Form 59E (2002 – 2003 testing year form) with the unused answer folders, do so immediately. Do not administer Form 59E.

GED Battery

If you stock the GED Battery you will receive Forms IG and IH in December 2003 for use starting 1 January 2004. Forms ID and IE cannot be used after 31 December 2003 and must be returned to the GED Testing Service.

DANTES now funds the Principles of Learning and Teaching exam

Effective January 2004, DANTES is authorizing the funding of the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) examinations. Please refer to the Praxis chapter of the *DANTES Examination Program Handbook* (Pages II-9-2 and 27) for a description of these tests and ordering information.

For funding purposes, DANTES treats each of the four individual PLT examinations as Praxis “Specialty Area Tests” and as such, DANTES authorizes only one DANTES-funded “Specialty Area Test” per individual, per lifetime at a DANTES Test Center. The examinee is responsible for paying the \$35 registration fee per test date.

If you have any questions regarding this new funding policy, please contact the Exam Programs at DSN 922-1063 or (850) 452-1063 or e-mail exams@voled.doded.mil.

Human Resources Certification Institute and DANTES

The Human Resources Certification Institute (HRCI) intends to offer its examinations by computer-based-testing (CBT) format starting in January 2004; however, they will continue their agreement with DANTES.

HRCI is an approved testing program under the Department of Veterans Affairs. The DANTES Certification Program Web site will provide a link to the HRCI Web site at <http://www.hrci.org>, or you may contact certprog@voled.doded.mil for more information.

Return Federal Communications Commission exams after test date

The National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers (NARTE) provides Service members with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) examinations via the DANTES Memorandum of Understanding.

In addition, NARTE currently offers a funded pilot program for FCC exams with DANTES. NARTE has asked that DANTES Test Control Officers return all FCC-funded exams, both used and unused, immediately after the scheduled administration date. Should prospective examinees be unable to test as scheduled due to unforeseen problems or military exigencies, please notify NARTE and let them make a decision regarding return of the unused exams based on the situation.

SDS is easy to use, self-administered tool

The Holland Self-Directed Search (SDS) is a simulated career counseling experience based on Dr. John L. Holland's RIASEC theory that both people and work environments can be classified according to six basic types: Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, and Conventional (RIASEC). The SDS enables individuals to choose career fields of study that best match their self-reported skills and interests. Extensive research has shown that people whose job and work environments most closely match their personal style and interests tend to consider themselves satisfied and successful with the occupational choices they have made.

The SDS is an easy-to-use, self-administered, self-corrected comprehensive career exploration tool that allows people to gain insight into the world of work and, with their new self-understanding, discover an occupational "match."

This tool is ideal for those not located in close proximity to a counselor.

DISCOVER — last opportunity to switch

All requests to switch from the CD-ROM version of the DISCOVER program to the Internet version must be received at DANTES by 19 December. The switches will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. The POC is Vince Harmon, e-mail counseling@voled.doded.mil, or you can fax to (850) 452-1588 or DSN 922-1588.

Counseling references available

DANTES stocks two different educational references that are published by Octameron Publishers. They are:

■ *College.Edu – Online Resources for the Cyber-Savvy Student*, DANTES Stock number 2443

■ *Don't Miss Out – The Ambitious Student's Guide to Financial Aid*, DANTES Stock number 2421

The limitation for both booklets is 50 per year. If you have the latest *DANTES Catalog of Materials*, please change the limitation of *Don't Miss Out – The Ambitious Student's Guide to Financial Aid* from 100 to 50 per year. This change was due to limited quantities of this publication.

These are small booklets, but they contain valuable information that can be of use to those who counsel Service members on an everyday basis. They can be ordered using the [DANTES Material Request Form](#) and returning the form to the address on the reverse. These materials are available to military education centers and education professionals of the various Military Services.

Should your office have questions on these booklets, e-mail the Reference Publications Manager at refpubs@voled.doded.mil or call DSN 922-1763 or (850) 452-1763.

SOC support for Reserve component members called to active duty

During the last 2 years, many members of the National Guard and Reserves have been activated to support missions at home and abroad. The Department of Defense (DOD) estimates that as much as 25 percent of those Reserve component members activated are college students.

Reserve component members related to mobilization or activation. In all but a few cases, SOC was able to work with the school to resolve the issue.

A few of the unresolved cases involved the administration of Title IV financial aid programs and were passed to the U.S. Department of

sota State College and University (MNSCU) system to assist soldiers in continuing their college education while deployed. About 40 lower-division courses in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, offered by 9 institutions in the MNSCU system, are timed to begin after the soldiers arrive in Bosnia, and end prior to

In cooperation with the DOD, Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) and its National Guard program (SOCGuard) provide assistance to activated Student-Reservists and the colleges/institutions in which they are enrolled.

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Additionally, SOC maintains a “troubleshooting” help line to assist Service members experiencing problems with colleges and universities. Since 9/11, SOC processed more than 300 calls for assistance from

Education for resolution. In several other cases, degree requirements changed for deployed students but involved a state regulatory body that governed the program such as a teacher certification program and a nurse licensure program.

SOCGuard assisted ARNG state education offices in recent deployments to Bosnia, Kosovo, and other installations in Europe. An example of this occurred in Minnesota. In its largest deployment since World War II, about 1,100 members of the 34th Infantry Division left Minnesota for a 6-month peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. MG Larry Shellito, Commander, 34th Infantry Division, along with CPT Barbara O'Reilly, MNARNG ESO and WO1 Tina Kojetin, Education Counselor, engineered a project with the Minne-

their departure for the U.S.

SOC is a resource for Reserve component members called to active duty. In addition to providing information on education services offered abroad, the SOCGuard staff will work with institutions to make them aware of their students' mobilization and work with them to accept transfer of credit for courses taken toward a soldier's degree.

SOCGuard's Web page contains information specifically for activated Service members and for colleges that are affected by the activations. You'll also find links to other useful sites for the activated soldier and family member.

For more information, visit <http://www.soc.aascu.org/socguard> or call the SOC help line at 1-800-368-5622.

From the Advisor's Desk

Support from the top

by MGySgt James O'Keefe, DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor



MGySgt O'Keefe

The Senior Enlisted Panel, held at the DOD World-wide Education Symposium 2003 (WW03), on 8 July in Orlando, Florida,

featured our senior enlisted leadership—representing all Services. Collectively, they have over 160 years of combined leadership experi-

tion is our future! There's no question about that...You're guiding our Soldiers, helping them fulfill that dream. Programs like 100 percent Tuition Assistance, eArmyU, SOCAD agreements and the counseling from you are keeping people in school and they're also keeping people in uniform. The Sergeant Major, Personal and Family Readiness Division, United States Marine Corps, **SgtMaj**



From Left: Sergeant Major of the Army Jack L. Tilley; Sergeant Major Ronnie L. Edwards; Command Master Chief James P. Russell; Master Gunnery Sergeant James P. O'Keefe; Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray; Command Master Chief Patricia A. Stolle; Command Sergeant Major Michele S. Jones

ence and Service to our country. Serving in positions of high visibility, they provide sage advice and counsel to their commanders with candid feedback on the life of the enlisted Service member today. It can be especially encouraging and informative when leaders take the time to show concern and voice support. Here are some excerpts from the WW03 Senior Enlisted Panel:

The 12th Sergeant Major of the Army, **SMA Jack L. Tilley**, asserted, "...Education is fun! Educa-

Ronnie L. Edwards said, "...we the Marines recognize the value of voluntary education. And we appreciate the sacrifices and successes of the entire DOD community..." The Command Master Chief of Naval Personnel Development Command, **MCPO James Philip Russell** reminded, "Each one of you has a piece of the readiness at the tip of the spear. When you train and teach and educate our Sailors...a little education goes a long way to enhancing readiness because now our finest and

brightest are out there on the tip of the spear using those critical thinking skills." The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, **CMSAF Gerald R. Murray** emphasized, "Education, skill, and experience are keys to our success...we (USAF) provide the basics through our tech schools and PME, but much more important is the education they get with your help." The Command Master Chief for Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific, U.S. Coast Guard, **MCPO Patricia A. Stolle** declared, "Life-long learning should not wait until you're age thirty...we need to get them started when they come through the door." Representing the Reserve enlisted forces, **CSM Michele S. Jones**, U. S. Army Reserve, stressed, "education is paramount to the readiness of the Reserve Component...more enlisted members in the Reserve component hold advanced degrees than in any other component."

★ Did you miss the Senior Enlisted Panel at WW03? For the full transcript of remarks, visit http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/advisors/sea/index.htm.

Happy Holidays!

Thank you for all you do for our Service members!

Do you have a success story? E-mail ea@voled.doded.mil.

TRAINING

FROM 1

ters to attend. To register, contact Toni Streety, Code 20C, at (850) 452-1063 or DSN 922-1063 or via e-mail at exams@voled.doded.mil.

During the Services Workshops, DANTES program managers provide in-depth training on DANTES programs and services. New counselors often describe this workshop as being ‘especially beneficial’ and just what they need to gain an understanding of how the many ‘pieces fit together’ in the world of voluntary education.

“Regional Workshops are similar to the DANTES Services Workshops. We still cover the various voluntary education programs and services, but

we go on the road instead,” said Ms. Keese. “It is also an opportunity to include our partners in higher education at colleges and universities and organizations like Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) and the American Council on Education (ACE). Not everyone can travel to Florida where we are located. Where we go depends on where the greatest needs are and whether we have the resources to support them.” Added Ms. Keese, “The 2004 Regional Workshop locations and dates are still tentative, but, as soon as further information is available, it will be posted on our Web site.”

The DANTES Web site is located

at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>.

At the DANTES Home Page, there are a series of blue buttons across the top of page. Select the button titled “Training/Conferences” and a drop-down menu will appear. Select TCO Workshops, Services Workshops, or Regional Workshops to find the latest information specific on each of the workshops.

Registration for either a Services Workshop or a Regional Workshop can be accomplished by using the registration form once it is posted to the Web site or by contacting Betty Keese, Code 10C, at (850) 452-1884 or DSN 922-1732 or via e-mail at training@voled.doded.mil.

Workshop	Dates	Location
Test Control Officer (TCO)	10-12 February	Pensacola, FL
Regional (tentative)	25 & 26 February	Honolulu, HI (tentative)
Regional (tentative)	Week of 8-12 March	San Antonio, TX (tentative)
Services	23-25 March	Pensacola, FL
TCO	11-13 May	Pensacola, FL
Regional (tentative)	Week of 19-23 July	San Diego, CA (tentative)
Services	17-19 August	Pensacola, FL
TCO	24-26 August	Pensacola, FL
TCO	19-21 October	Pensacola, FL
TCO	7-9 December	Pensacola, FL

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The Secretary of the Navy has determined this publication necessary in the transaction of business required by law of the Department of the Navy. Funds for printing this publication have been approved by the Navy Publications and Printing policy committee.

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WW Symposium	1732	1162	worldwide@voled.doded.mil
Training	1884	1162	training@voled.doded.mil
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Military Counselor Network	1763	1588	menet_admin@voled.doded.mil
DANTES Publications/ <i>DIB</i>	1132	1158	pubs@voled.doded.mil
Education Programs Dept.	1360	1161	
Examinations	1063	1160	exams@voled.doded.mil
Distance Learning	1085	1005	dstlearn@voled.doded.mil
Tuition Assistance	1085	1005	tahelp@voled.doded.mil
Certification	1360	1161	certprog@voled.doded.mil
Distribution Center	1082	1140	dist@voled.doded.mil